



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was at least steady, mostly steady to fully steady. Retail demand ranged fair to moderate and improved in areas where active feature activity was present. Food service was moderate to fairly good, best for fast food promotions. Supplies were sufficient to tight, but overall able to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, bone-in breasts were in good balance and moving. All other items were adequate to fully adequate and slowly clearing even at or below market levels. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 58.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 68.75 cents last year on the 21st of October, 1998.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| BREASTS - B/S | 149.50 |
| BREASTS - WHOLE | 73.50 |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 60.50 |
| LEG QUARTERS | 20.00 |
| WINGS | 59.00 |

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

| 15 STATES | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|
| WEEK ENDING 10/16/99 | 1999 | 1998 | PREVIOUS YEAR |
| EGGS SET | 164,296 | 167,294 | +98% |
| CHICKS PLACED | 132,208 | 131,336 | +101% |

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 164 million eggs during the week ending October 16, 1999. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 81 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 132 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 16, 1999. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through October 16, 1999, were 5.88 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 27-Nov-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 140.1 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 140.4 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 138.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 112.8 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 63.64CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was fully steady. Offerings in good balance. Retailer demand moderate. Floor stocks adequate.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was at least steady. Demand was fair to moderate, best where featured. Supplies were adequate to closely cleared as various plants cut back on production levels to keep offerings more balanced. In the parts structure, all items were at least sufficient with fair to moderate movement. Bone-in breasts were in the closest position and clearing well. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was mostly steady, instances fully steady. Additional whole bird offerings light and most buyers content with recurrent commitments. Retail and food service movement was mixed, mostly seasonal with demand in Ohio continuing to improve and best movement into fast food accounts. Features in Chicago noted at 39 and 49 cents for whole fryers. Floor stocks were in a full range with sizes mostly desirable. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate with product offerings at or below market prices. Trading was moderate on wings, slow to fair on all other items. In Chicago, split breastwere featured at \$1.49 and boneless/skinless breasts at \$2.49. Trade sentiment was steady on wings and cautiously steady on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly fair. Offerings continued to satisfy current needs. Retail and distributive movement was moderate to good. The market tone was steady at least. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were adequate to short, and all other items were at least sufficient for immediate needs. The market tone was no better than steady.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally noted as good mainly due to active retail promotional activity. Offerings ranged adequate to tight. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were trending lighter but remained mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 50 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were fully sufficient for current inquiry. Bone in breasts were in generally good balance. Leg quarters were fully adequate. Wings were fully adequate to ample.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA. | |
| | BRANDED U.S. GRADE A |
| RANGE | 47-66 |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | 52.55 |
| NO. OF BOXES | 10,115 |

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

OCTOBER 19, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

OCTOBER 20, 1999

| ITEM | POUNDS | | MAJORITY | WTD |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|--------|
| | (000) | RANGE | | AVG |
| BREAST - B/S | 478 | 134.00-181.00 | 135-140 | 141.39 |
| TENDERLOINS | 92 | 145.00-180.00 | 145-150 | 154.46 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 71 | 68.00-72.00 | - | 68.23 |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| LEGS | 86 | 22.00-33.00 | 22-23 | 23.00 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 427 | 14.00-18.00 | 14-16 | 15.38 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,011 | 16.50-20.00 | 18-19 | 19.04 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 166 | 56.00-58.00 | - | 56.72 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 402 | 60.00-77.00 | 64-66 | 65.07 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| B/S THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR OCTOBER 19, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 31.00-36.50 | 32.47 |

| ITEM | POUNDS | | MAJORITY | WTD |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|--------|
| | (000) | RANGE | | AVG |
| BREAST - B/S | 578 | 120.00-181.00 | 135-140 | 140.59 |
| TENDERLOINS | 77 | 145.00-180.00 | 145-150 | 156.37 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 72 | 68.00-75.00 | 68-70 | 68.46 |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| LEGS | 86 | 22.00-33.00 | 22-24 | 23.00 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 307 | 14.00-18.00 | 14-15 | 15.00 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,174 | 16.50-20.00 | 18-19 | 19.10 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 156 | 56.00-59.50 | 56-57 | 56.93 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 344 | 64.00-77.00 | 64-66 | 65.56 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| B/S THIGHS | 81 | 50.50-68.00 | - | 52.94 |

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR OCTOBER 20, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | 5-DAY AVERAGE |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 32.50 - 41.50 | 36.50 | 32.64 |

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying interest was generally fair. Offerings of bone-in breasts were reported as adequate to sometimes short, and the remainder of items were at least adequate for current needs. Retail and distributive movement continued about moderate. The market tone was no better than steady.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL
TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

| ITEM | OCTOBER 19, 1999 | | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------|---------|
| | CURRENT NEG | WTD | |
| BREAST - B/S | 135 | 141.44 | 494,670 |
| TENDERLOINS | 150 | 150.31 | 82,040 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 61-62 | 68.74 | 342,760 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 61 | 64.84 | 107,000 |
| LEGS | 25-26 | 29.43 | 227,880 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 16-17 | 17.76 | 405,250 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 34-35 | 31.72 | 155,990 |
| THIGHS | 17-18 | 28.48 | 124,040 |
| B/S THIGHS | 69-70 | 73.43 | 56,710 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 57-58 | 65.61 | 197,320 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.02 | 38,000 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 55-60 | 52.33 | 49,996 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 49.85 | 38,810 |

| ITEM | OCTOBER 20, 1999 | | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------|---------|
| | CURRENT NEG | WTD | |
| BREAST - B/S | 135 | 142.61 | 396,600 |
| TENDERLOINS | 150 | 150.04 | 66,280 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 61-62 | 69.64 | 241,680 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 61 | 66.44 | 113,560 |
| LEGS | 25-26 | 29.71 | 192,240 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 16-17 | 18.35 | 388,356 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 34-35 | 30.97 | 110,720 |
| THIGHS | 17-18 | 28.59 | 84,560 |
| B/S THIGHS | 69-70 | 72.83 | 40,200 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 57-58 | 64.49 | 235,320 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.12 | 26,080 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 55-60 | 59.50 | 49,872 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 49.39 | 31,600 |

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

| | ESTIMATED | | ACTUAL | | AVG | | AVG | |
|----------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|------|-------|--------|------|
| | 10/20 | 10/19 | 10/18 | 10/15 | WTS | 10/18 | 10/15 | WTS |
| ALA | 3,771 | 3,878 | 3,898 | 3,774 | 5.23 | 5.05 | 3,730 | 5.27 |
| ARK | 5,002 | 5,236 | 5,224 | 4,672 | 4.90 | 4.82 | 4,979 | 5.35 |
| DELMARVA | 2,413 | 2,402 | 2,473 | 2,152 | 4.87 | 4.98 | 2,409 | 5.11 |
| KY-LA-TN | 1,794 | 1,803 | 1,806 | 1,810 | 4.58 | 4.28 | 1,771 | 4.51 |
| MISS | 2,550 | 2,815 | 2,781 | 3,030 | 5.16 | 5.09 | 2,592 | 5.11 |
| NC | 2,606 | 2,596 | 2,542 | 2,532 | 5.90 | 5.70 | 2,583 | 6.01 |
| TEXAS | 2,157 | 2,135 | 2,096 | 2,342 | 4.86 | 4.76 | 2,047 | 4.86 |
| TOTAL | 20,293 | 20,865 | 19,703 | 20,312 | 5.09 | 4.97 | 20,111 | 5.23 |
| MON-WED | 61,523 | (A) | | | | | 61,102 | (A) |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 20-Oct 99 is estimated to be 30,361,000 up 0.60 percent from a week ago and up 6.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,179,000; last year 28,549,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

| DELIVERED TO RETAILERS | RANGE |
|------------------------|-------|
| FRESH FRYERS | 80-82 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | 82-90 |
| HENS UNDER 5# | - |
| HENS OVER 5# | 83-88 |
| DUCKS | 125 |
| RABBITS-WHOLE | 309 |
| RABBITS-CUT UP | 326 |

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

| | | |
|------------------|----------|---------|
| FRESH FRYERS | ICE PACK | 91-96 |
| | DRY PACK | 107 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | ICE PACK | 104 |
| | DRY PACK | 112 |
| HENS OVER 5# | ICE PACK | 91 |
| | DRY PACK | 98 |
| DUCKS | | 149-166 |

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPT -

| | CURRENT WEEK | PREVIOUS WEEK |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | 10/23/99 (1) | 10/16/99 |
| CLASS | THOUSAND HEAD | |
| BRO-FRY | 156,045 (2) | 155,477 |
| LT HENS | 1,948 | 1,684 |
| HVY HENS | 1,670 | 1,674 |
| CHECK TOTAL | 159,663 | 158,835 |

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 23-Oct-99 is 148.3 million head compared to 150.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 157.9 million head or 9.6 million more than estimated available. For week of 30-Oct-99 the estimated available is 148.5 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEY | PROCESSED POULTRY |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | LBS | LBS |
| AM 18-Oct-99 | 168,640 | 93,017 |
| AM 1-Oct-99 | 183,153 | 95,290 |
| CHG | -14,513 | -2,273 |
| PCT CHG | -8 | -2 |

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT

(IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEYS | | | PROCESSED POULTRY | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 10/18/99 | 10/11/99 | 10/19/98 | 10/18/99 | 10/11/99 | 10/19/98 |
| PACIFIC | | | | | | |
| COAST | 27,187 | 36,839 | 42,737 | 14,735 | 14,716 | 6,129 |
| LOS | | | | | | |
| ANGELES | 894 | 912 | 624 | 5,728 | 5,800 | 2,322 |

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

REPORT NOT AVAILABLE

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 18, 1999.

| HENS | | RANGE |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) | | 60-65 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | | 66-69 |

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending October 15, 1999

| | Whole Chickens | Breasts | Legs w/ Thighs | Necks,Backs & Wings | Livers/ Gizzards | Hens |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| RAYON | | | | | | |
| Low | 47.65 | 102.78 | 60.73 | 18.69 | 4.67 | 44.38 |
| High | 48.59 | 116.79 | 70.08 | 28.03 | 5.61 | 44.38 |
| Mostly | 48.59 | 112.12 | 70.08 | 23.36 | 4.67 | 44.38 |
| SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 49.52 | 88.76 | 60.73 | 18.69 | 4.67 | 46.72 |
| High | 50.46 | 107.45 | 70.08 | 30.37 | 8.41 | 46.72 |
| Mostly | 49.52 | 93.44 | 63.07 | 25.70 | 5.61 | 46.72 |
| NEW SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 46.72 | 102.78 | 65.40 | 18.69 | 4.67 | 42.05 |
| High | 49.05 | 116.79 | 74.75 | 23.36 | 5.61 | 42.05 |
| Mostly | 48.12 | 112.12 | 70.08 | 18.69 | 4.67 | 42.05 |
| BECERRA | | | | | | |
| Low | 49.05 | 88.76 | 58.40 | 18.69 | 4.20 | 46.72 |
| High | 50.46 | 112.12 | 67.74 | 28.03 | 8.41 | 46.72 |
| Mostly | 50.46 | 98.11 | 60.73 | 21.02 | 5.61 | 46.72 |

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